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THE NORTHERN LORD.

In FOUR PARTS.

TEWKESBURY:

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The *NORTHERN LORD.*

PART I.

A Noble Lord of high renown,
Two daughter's had, the eldeſt brown,
The youngeſt beautiful and fair,
By chance a noble knight came there.

Her father ſaid, kind ſir, I have
Two daughters, which do you crave?
One that is beautiful, he cry'd,
The noble knight he then reply'd:

She's young ſhe's beautiful and gay,
And is not to be given away,
But as jewels are bought and ſold,
She ſhall bring me her weight in gold.

The price I think you need not grudge,
Since I will freely give as much
With her one ſiſter, if I can
Find out ſome other nobleman.

With that beſpoke the noble knight,
I'd ſooner have the beauty bright
At that vaſt rate, renowned lord,
Then the other with a vaſt reward.

So then the bargain it was made,
But e'er the money could be paid,
He had it of a wealthy Jew,
The ſum ſo large, the writings drew.

That if he fail'd, or miſs'd the day,
So many ounces he ſhould pay,
Of his own fleſh, inſtead of gold,
All was agreed, the ſum was told.

So he return'd immediately,
Unto the lord, where he did buy
His daughter fine, I do declare,
And paid him down the money there.

He bought her too, it was well known,
Unto mankind ſhe was his own,
By her a ſon he did enjoy,
A ſweet and comely handſome boy,

At length the time of pay drew near,
When the knight did begin to fear;
He dreaded much the cruel Jew,
Becauſe the money it was due.

His lady aſk'd him, why he griev'd?
He ſaid, my jewel, I receiv'd,
Such a ſum of money of a Jew,
And now the money it is due.

And now the day of payment's come,
I'm ſure I cannot raiſe the ſum,
He'll have my fleſh, weight for weight,
Which makes my grief and ſorrow great.

Tuſh! never fear him, ſhe reply'd,
We'll croſs the raging ocean wide
And ſo ſecure you from the fate,
To her requeſt he yielded ſtrait.

PART II.

THEN having paſs'd the raging ſeas,
They travel'd on, 'till by degrees,
Unto the German court he came,
The knight, his ſon, and comely dame.

Unto the Emperor he told,
His ſtory of the ſum of gold,
That he had borrow'd of a Jew,
And that for fear of death he flew.

The Emperor he did erect,
A court for them and ſhew'd reſpect
Unto his gueſts, becauſe they came
From Britain, that bleſt land of fame.

As here he lived in delight,
A Dutch lord told our Engliſh knight,
That he a ton of gold would lay,
He could enjoy his lady gay.

From her the lord he was to bring,
A rich and coſtly diamond ring,
That was to prove and teſtify,
How he did with his lady lie.

He tries, but never could obtain
Her favour but with high diſdain;
She did abhor his baſe intent,
So to her chamber-maid he went.

And told her if ſhe would but ſteal,
Her lady's ring and to conceal
The ſame, and bring it to him ſtrait,
She ſhould enjoy a fine eſtate.

In hopes of ſuch a fine reward
The ring ſhe ſtole, then the Dutch lord
Did take it to the noble knight,
Who almoſt ſwooned at the ſight.

Home he goes to the lady ſtrait,
Meeting her at the palace gate,
He flung her headlong into the moat,
And left her there to ſink or float.

Soon after that in cloaths of green,
She like a warlike knight was ſeen,
And in moſt gallant gay deport
She rode unto the Emperor's court.

Now when the Emperor beheld
Her brave deportment, he was fill'd
With admiration at the ſight,
Who call'd herſelf an Engliſh knight.

The Emperor did then reply,
We have an Engliſh knight to die,
For drowning of his lady gay,
Quoth ſhe, I'd ſee him if I may.

'Twas granted, ſo to him ſhe came,
And calling of him by his name,
She ſaid, kind ſir, be of good cheer,
Your friend I'll be you need not fear.

PART III.

SHE to the Emperor did ride,
And ſaid, now let this cauſe be try'd,
Once more, for I've a mind to ſave
This noble gallant from the grave.

It being done, the court was ſet,
The Dutch lord came, ſeeming to fret
About the ring, ſeeming to fear,
How truth would make his ſhame appear.

And ſo it did, for ſoon they call
The maid, who on her knees did fall,
Before the court, and did confeſs
The Dutch lord's unworthineſs.

The court reply'd, Is it ſo?
The lady too for ought we know,
May be alive, therefore we'll ſtay,
The ſentence 'till another day.

Now the Dutch lord gave him a ton
Of gold, which he had juſtly won;
And ſo he did with ſhame and grief,
And thus the knight obtain'd relief.

The Dutch lord to revenge the ſpite,
Upon our noble Engliſh knight,
Did ſend a letter out of hand,
And ſo the Jew did underſtand,

How he was in a German court,
So here upon this good report,
The Jew he croſs'd the ocean wide,
Reſolving to be ſatisfied.

Soon as e'er he fix'd his eyes
Upon the knight, in wrath he cries,
Your hand and ſeal I pray behold:
Your fleſh I'll have inſtead of gold.

Said the noble knight in green,
Sir, may not your articles be ſeen?
Yes, that they may, replied the Jew,
And I'm reſolv'd to have my due.

Lo then the knight began to read,
At lengh ſhe ſaid, I find indeed,
Nothing but fleſh you are to have,
Anſwers the Jew, That's all I crave.

The poor diſtreſſed knight was brought,
The bloody-minded Jew he thought
That day to be reveng'd on him,
And part his fleſh from every limb.

The knight in green ſaid, Mr. Jew,
There's nothing elſe but fleſh your due,
Then ſee no drop of blood you ſhed,
For if you do off goes your head.

Pray take your due with all my heart,
But with his blood we will not part,
With that the Jew ſneaked away,
And had not one word more to ſay.

PART IV.

NO ſooner were theſe troubles paſt,
But his wife's father came at laſt,
Reſolving for to have his life,
For drowning his beloved wife.

Over the ſeas her father brought
Many brave horſes: One was bought
By the pretended knight in green,
Which was the beſt that e'er was ſeen.

So to the German court he came,
Declaring ſuch a one by name,
Had drowned his fair daughter dear,
And ought to die a death ſevere.

They brought him from the priſon then,
Guarded by many armed men,
Unto the place where he muſt die,
And the young knight was ſtanding by.

Then from her ſide her ſword ſhe drew,
And run her gelding through and through,
Her father ſaid, Why do you ſo?
I may, it is my own, you know.

You ſold your gelding 'tis well known,
I bought it making it my own;
And may do what I pleaſe with it,
And then to her he did ſubmit.

Here is a man arraign'd and caſt,
And brought to ſuffer death at laſt,
Becauſe your daughter dear he ſlew;
Which if he did what's that to you?

You had your money when you ſold,
Your daughter for her weight in gold,
Wherefore he might it is well known,
Do what he pleaſed with his own.

She having chang'd her garments green,
And dreſt herſelf like a fair queen,
Her father and her huſband ſtrait,
Both knew her and their joys were great.

Soon they did carry this report,
Unto the famous German court,
How the renowned Engliſh knight,
Had found his charming lady bright.

So the Emperor, and the lords of fame,
With chearful hearts they did proclaim,
An univerſal joy to ſee,
His lady's life at liberty.